WOMT Summary for April 12, 2011

The WOMT met and discussed the following:

The Smelt Working Group reported no recommendation for Delta smelt or longfin smelt at this time and will continue to monitor salvage, survey data and hydrological conditions. The Working Group estimated that the overall risk of entrainment was low given the distributional data from recent surveys and believes that, based upon what is known of Delta conditions and delta smelt distribution, a modification of Project operations to protect delta smelt is not yet warranted.

DOSS advises relaxing the OMR criteria to no more negative than -5,000 cfs (default in NMFS BiOp until June 15) as of today based on both the salmon and steelhead loss density below the triggers in the NMFS BiOp.

NMFS accepts the advice from DOSS and determines that managing CVP/SWP operations is consistent with the intended implementation of Action IV.2.3 and sufficiently protective of listed species present in the Delta at this time.